

X-MEN

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APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

X-MEN

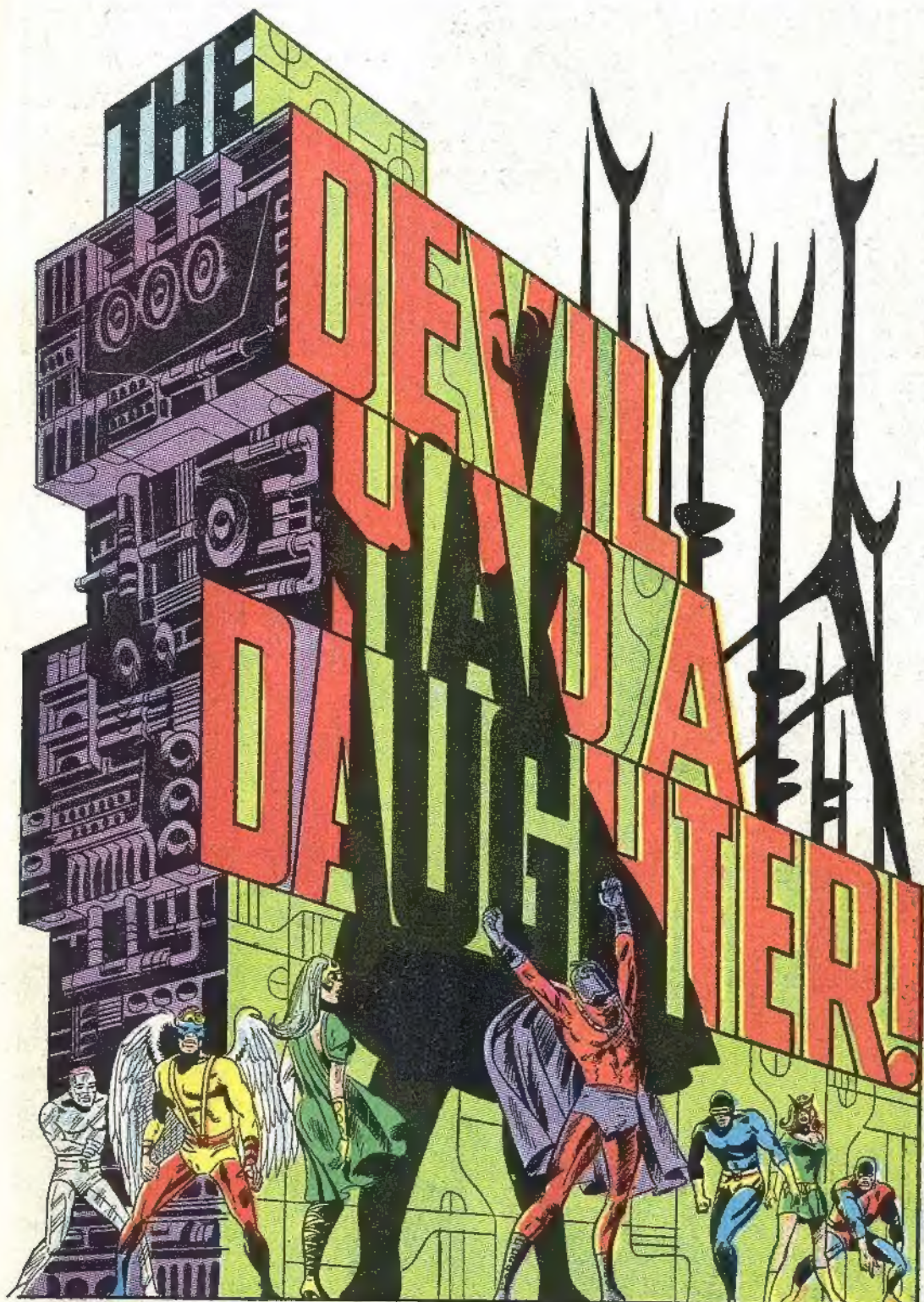


MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

STIERANKO



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EDITOR-STAN LEE WRITER-ARNOLD DRAKE ART- DO WE HAVE TO TELL YOU? INKS-JOHN TARTAGLIONE LETTERING-S.ROSEN

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FROM THE GRAVE TO WHICH ALL HAD THOUGHT HIM CON-SIGNED, **MAGNETO** HAS RETURNED ---

YES! IT IS SO! THE GIRL IS FLESH OF MY FLESH... BLOOD OF MY BLOOD! HERS SHALL BE THE POWER AND GLORY KNOWN TO NO OTHER WOMAN! FOR...

SHE IS... THE **DAUGHTER OF MAGNETO!**

NOW, MY CHILD, YOU MUST MAKE YOUR CHOICE!

WILL YOU STAND BESIDE THESE **FOOLS** WHO ARE TOO BLIND OR TOO COWARDLY TO USE THE **INFINITE** POWER TO WHICH THEY, TOO, WERE BORN ---

...A POWER BEYOND ALL OTHER MEN... A MIGHT DESTINED ONLY FOR **GODS?** OR...

...WILL YOU HEED THE CALL OF YOUR OWN BLOOD, AND ENTHRONED BESIDE ME, **RULE** ALL OF MANKIND?

THAT, FRIENDS, IS WHAT THEY CALL **STACKING** THE DECK! HE'S COMBINED THE **TWO** MOST POWERFUL HUMAN ELEMENTS!

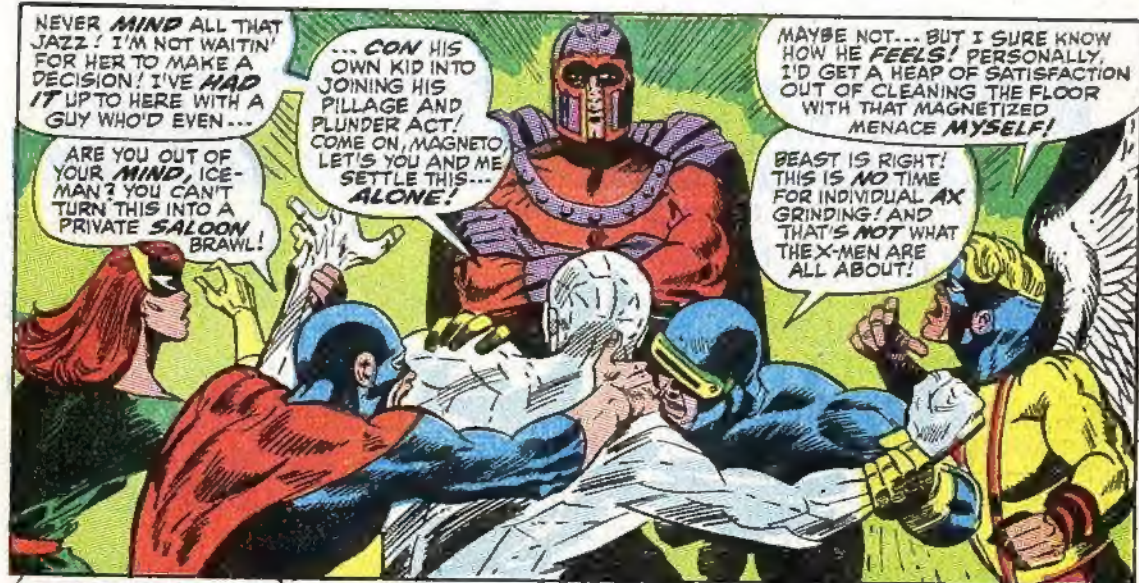
VERILY! **FILIAL DUTY** AND THE INNER NEED FOR **POWER!** THE GIRL HAS NO OPTION BUT TO TURN AGAINST US!

SHE **COULD** HAVE A CHOICE... IF SHE KNEW THE TRUTH ABOUT **MAGNETO!** I'M NOT WILD ABOUT TELLING A GIRL THAT HER FATHER IS AN INSANE **MASS KILLER**... BUT IT HAS TO BE... EVEN THOUGH SHE'S GOTTA HATE ME FOR IT!

TELL HER THE REST, **BIG MAN!** TELL HER HOW YOU'VE USED YOUR MUTANT POWERS TO FEED YOUR OWN **MAD EGO!** TELL HER...

...ABOUT THE **LIVES** YOU'VE TAKEN, THE **FORTUNES** YOU'VE **STOLEN**, THE MISERY AND MIS-FORTUNE YOU'VE BEEN SPREADING! AROUND WITH A **TROWEL!** TELL HER...

...THAT YOU'RE OFFERIN' HER A HALF-INTEREST IN A **BLOODY EMPIRE** THAT WOULD MAKE **GENGHIS KHAN** AND **ATTILA** THE HUN LOOK LIKE THE **SMOTHERS BROTHERS!**



NEVER *MIND* ALL THAT JAZZ! I'M NOT WAITIN' FOR HER TO MAKE A DECISION! I'VE *HAD* IT UP TO HERE WITH A GUY WHO'D EVEN...

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR *MIND*, ICE-MAN? YOU CAN'T TURN THIS INTO A PRIVATE *SALOON* BRAWL!

... *CON* HIS OWN KID INTO JOINING HIS PILLAGE AND PLUNDER ACT! COME ON, MAGNETO, LET'S YOU AND ME SETTLE THIS... *ALONE!*

MAYBE NOT... BUT I SURE KNOW HOW HE *FEELS!* PERSONALLY, I'D GET A HEAP OF SATISFACTION OUT OF CLEANING THE FLOOR WITH THAT MAGNETIZED MENACE *MYSELF!*

BEAST IS RIGHT! THIS IS *NO* TIME FOR INDIVIDUAL *AX* GRINDING! AND THAT'S *NOT* WHAT THE X-MEN ARE ALL ABOUT!



I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANY OF THAT! I'M *ONLY* INTERESTED IN GETTIN' EVEN WITH ANYBODY WHO'D...

...TURN A SWEET KID LIKE LORNA... A KID WITH A HEART AND A SOUL AND A CLEAN FRESH SPIRIT... INTO *QUEEN OF THE GHOULS!*

SO, FOR *ONE* LONE BEING, YOU'D THROW AWAY THE EXTRA-ORDINARY GIFT WITH WHICH YOU WERE BORN AND THE INFINITE TRAINING BY *PROFESSOR XAVIER*...

...WHICH WERE MEANT TO BENEFIT *ALL* MEN!



THEY ARE RIGHT, ICEMAN! NO *MATTER* WHAT MY DECISION... YOU CANNOT *WASTE* YOURSELF ON ME!

HOLD IT, ICEMAN! JUST *TELL* ME... ARE YOU DETERMINED TO DO THIS, NO *MATTER* WHAT?

YOU *KNOW* IT, MAN! SO NO MORE SERMONS OR PATRIOTIC PITCHES!



NO! I'VE PITCHED MY *LAST* PITCH! SO LONG AS I KNOW THERE'S *NO* WAY OF CHANGING YOUR MIND ABOUT THIS...

...WE MIGHT AS WELL MAKE IT ONE GREAT BIG FAMILY *DONNYBROOK!* MAGNETO... THE *JUNIOR* MEMBER OF OUR ORGANIZATION JUST WON THE DAY! WHICH MEANS...

...YOU *LOSE!!!*

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

80,000 CANDLEPOWER

FROM ONLY SIX STANDARD FLASHLIGHT BATTERIES IN 3-CELL LENGTH

**SKIN DIVERS
UNDERWATER
BEAM LIGHTS**

*Fire & Police Depts.
USE AND RECOMMEND*



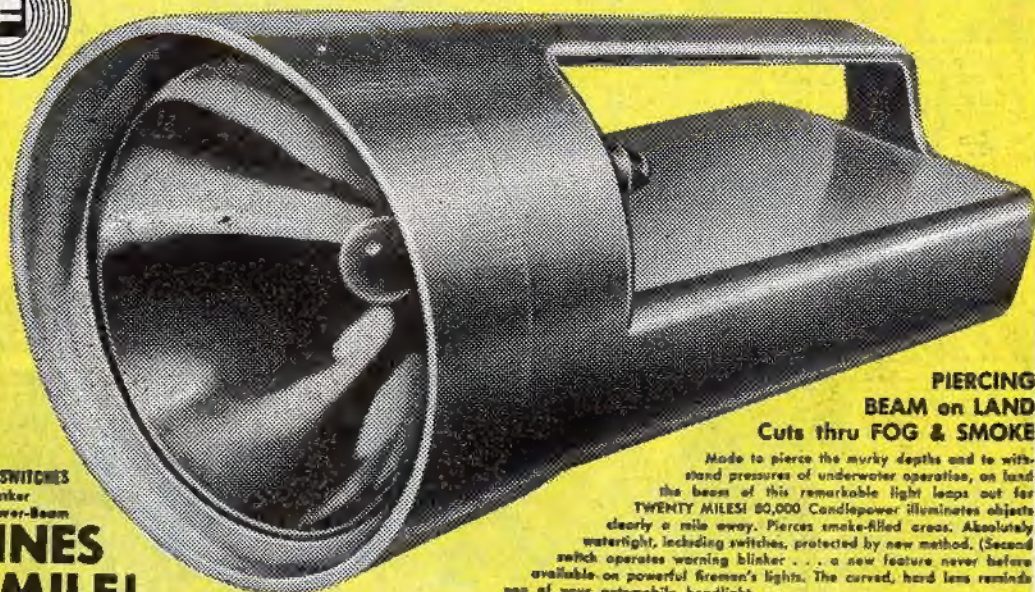
TREMENDOUS POWER on LAND!

**BEAM
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Used by skin divers, hunters, fishermen, shippers, watchmen, fire departments, police (who hail this new light as the answer to their needs).



\$8.39
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HAS TWO SWITCHES
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**SHINES
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Made to pierce the murky depths and to withstand pressures of underwater operation, on land the beam of this remarkable light leaps out for TWENTY MILES! 80,000 Candlepower illuminates objects clearly a mile away. Pierces smoke-filled areas. Absolutely watertight, including switches, protected by new method. (Second switch operates warning blinker... a new feature never before available on powerful fireman's lights. The curved, hard lens reminds you of your automobile headlight.

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MONEY BACK GUARANTEE



I DON'T KNOW HOW A **SUPER-ROGUE** LIKE YOU PRODUCED A TOP-DRAWER ITEM LIKE **LORNA**...BUT I'M GOING TO **TRY** NOT TO LET IT INFLUENCE ME! YOU'RE **STILL** NUMBER ONE ON MY... **RAT LIST!**

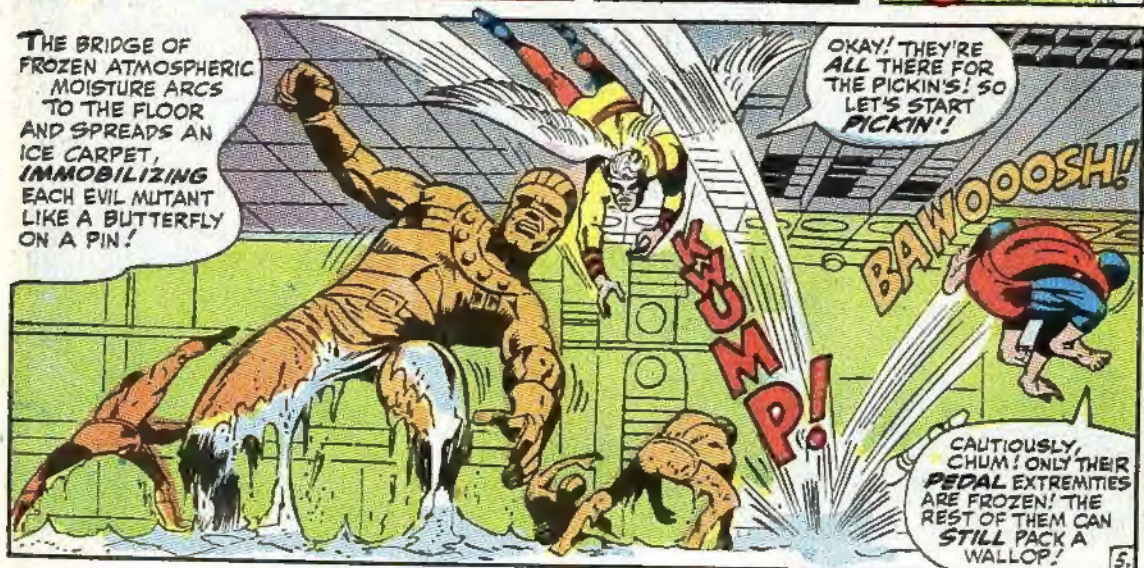
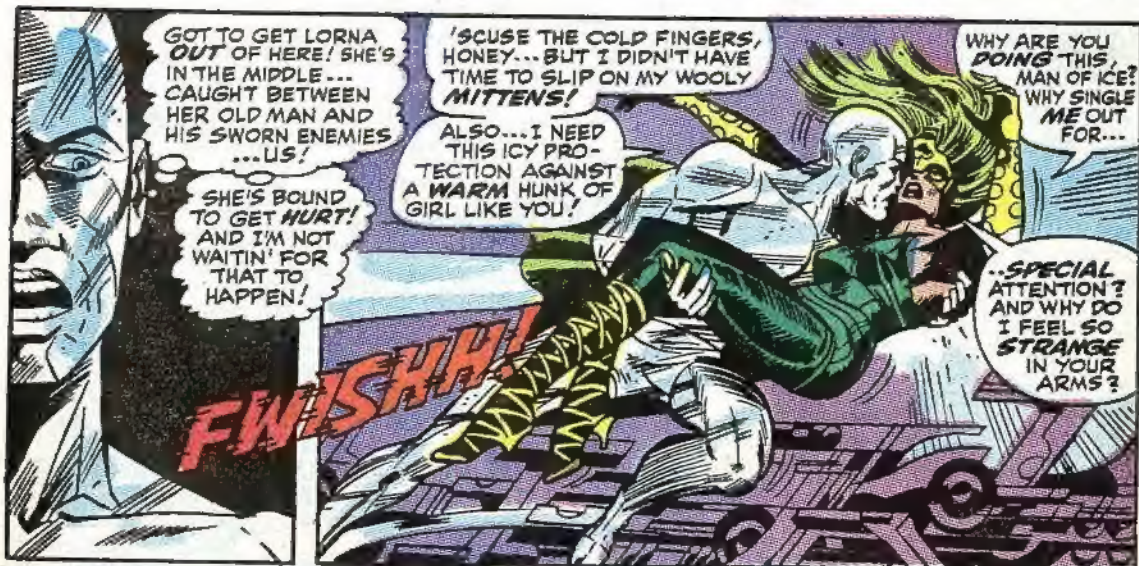


THE **FIRST** BLOW WAS YOURS! BUT THE **LAST**...THE **DEATH BLOW**... SHALL BE **MINE!**

MESMERO! LOYALEST OF ALL MY SERVANTS...PUT AN END TO THESE **NOXIOUS** FOOLS!



THERE IS A **FORTUNE**...AND MY **UNDYING GRATITUDE**... TO HIM WHO CLAIMS THEIR... **HEADS!**

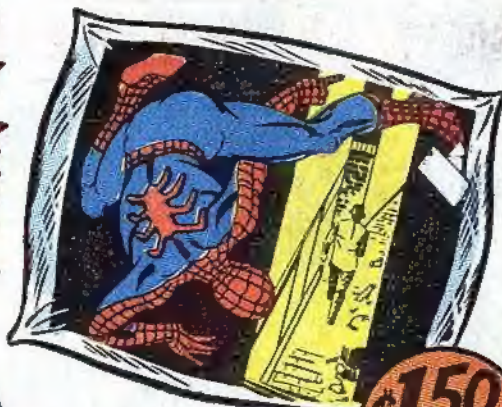




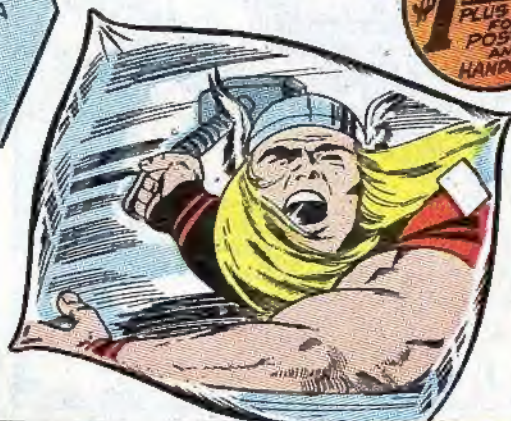
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INTRODUCING THE LATEST, MOST ORIGINAL MARVEL MERCHANDISING MASTERPIECES EVER... THREE DIMENSIONAL SUPER-HERO PLASTIC PILLOWS THAT CAN HOLD MORE WEIGHT THAN YOU CAN SHAKE A FORBUSH AT! YOU CAN BANG 'EM! TOSS 'EM! EVEN LET 'EM HANG LOOSE ON THE WALL! ... EITHER SPIDER-MAN OR THOR, IN FULL COLOR YET!



\$1.50
PLUS 15¢
FOR
POSTAGE
AND
HANDLING



I'D LIKE _____ SPIDER-MAN PILLOWS.
I'D LIKE _____ THOR PILLOWS.
TOTAL → _____

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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____
SEND NO CASH! CHECK
OR MONEY ORDER ONLY.

MARVEL SUPER-HERO T-SHIRTS

ONLY \$2.00 EA. INCLUDING
POSTAGE AND HANDLING. WRITE
SIZE IN COUPON BELOW:
YOUTH - MEDIUM - LARGE
ADULT - SMALL - MEDIUM - LARGE



WE'VE ONLY GOT A
LIMITED SUPPLY.
FRANTIC ONES, SO RUSH
YOUR ORDER IN NOW!

THE MERRY MARVEL MARCHING SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP KIT!

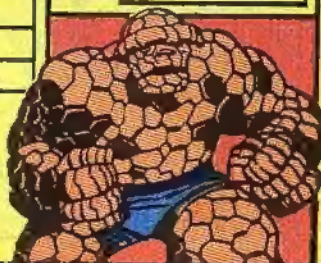
ALL NEW MEMBERSHIP KIT:
AN OFFICIAL RECORDING
OF M.M.M.S. SONG...
SWINGIN' STICKERS OF
EIGHT MARVEL HEROES
... A NUTTY NEW NOTE
PAD... A MARVEL MINI-
BOOK... A MARVEL
PENCIL... AN M.M.M.S.
CERTIFICATE... YOUR OWN
MEMBERSHIP CARD...
ALL FOR ONLY \$1.00
PRESENT MEMBERS:
SEND US YOUR MEMBER-
SHIP NUMBER AND WE'LL
SEND YOU NEW KIT FOR 75¢

T-SHIRTS	SIZE	QUANTITY
CAPT. MARVEL		
SPIDER-MAN		
THE HULK		
THOR		

TOTAL

\$ _____

MERRY MARVEL
MARCHING SOCIETY
KIT \$ _____



OKAY, MADMEN... HERE'S MY HARD-
EARNED CASH, WHICH I'M SENDING YOU AT:
M.M.M.S. MARVEL COMICS GROUP DEPT. A.J.
625 MADISON AVE. N.Y.C. N.Y. 10022

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

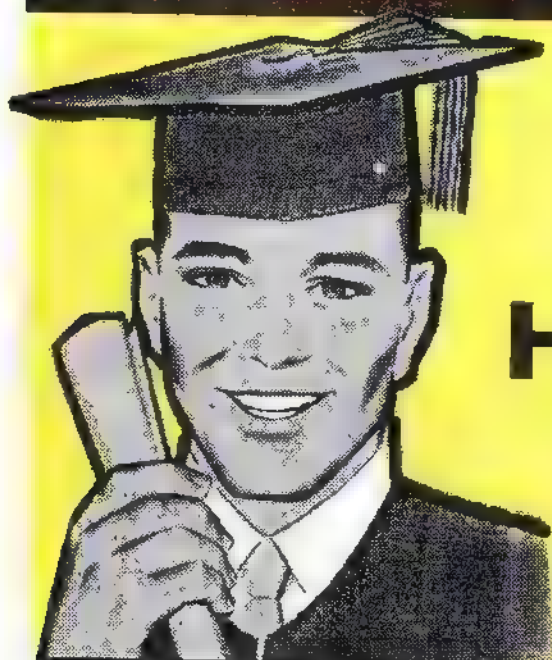
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CHECK OR MONEY
ORDER ONLY!

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EARN A DIPLOMA IN YOUR SPARE TIME
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QUALIFY FOR A BETTER JOB HIGHER PAY • GREATER SECURITY

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- Simplified Lessons • Very Little Writing
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Get the Full Story—FREE

Send for Academy's FREE booklet. It tells you how you can finish high school at home. Low cost, easy terms. You will also receive free a valuable Government booklet with advice for drop-outs, and a self-scoring test of your general knowledge. You may discover you are much closer to completing high school than you imagined. Mail coupon below today. Academy, 425 South Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois 60605.



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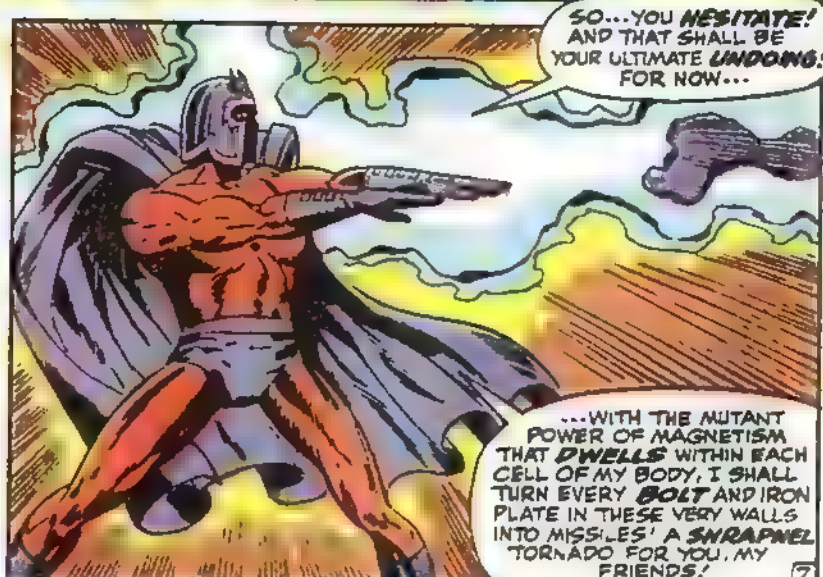
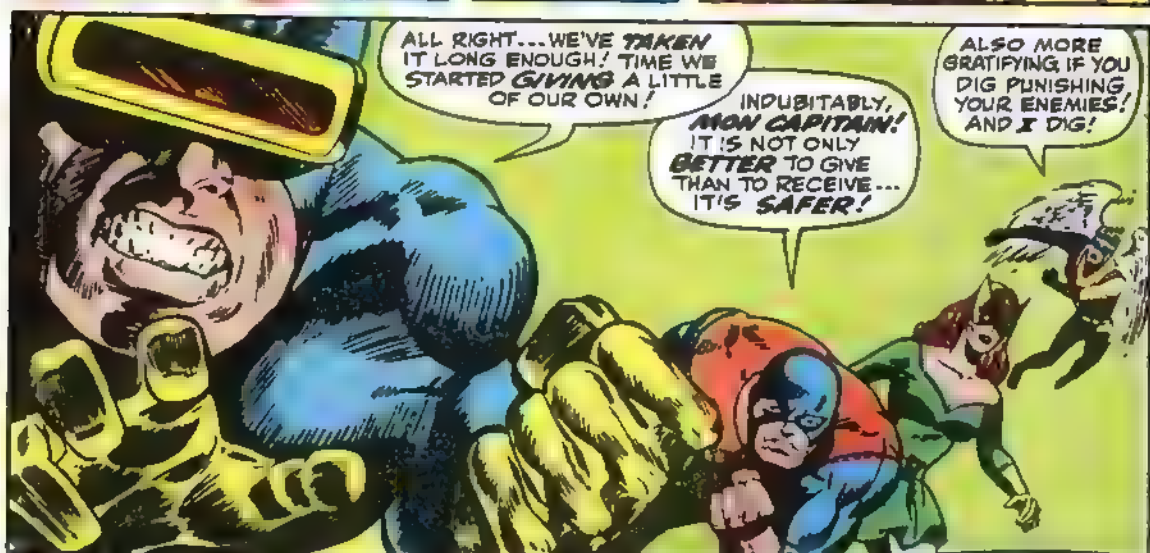
425 S. Dearborn, Dept. 84-907, Chicago, Illinois 60605

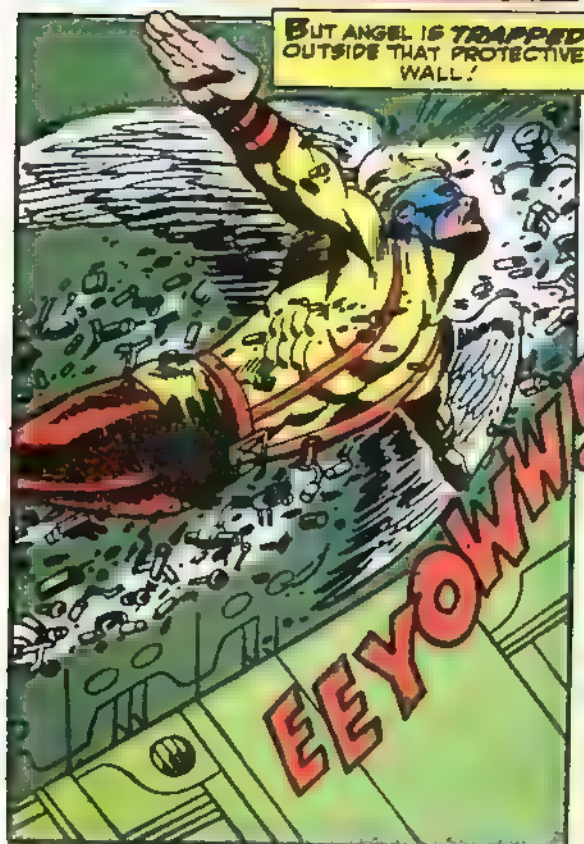
Please rush FREE booklet on how to finish high school at home, also free Government booklet and self-scoring test. No obligation.

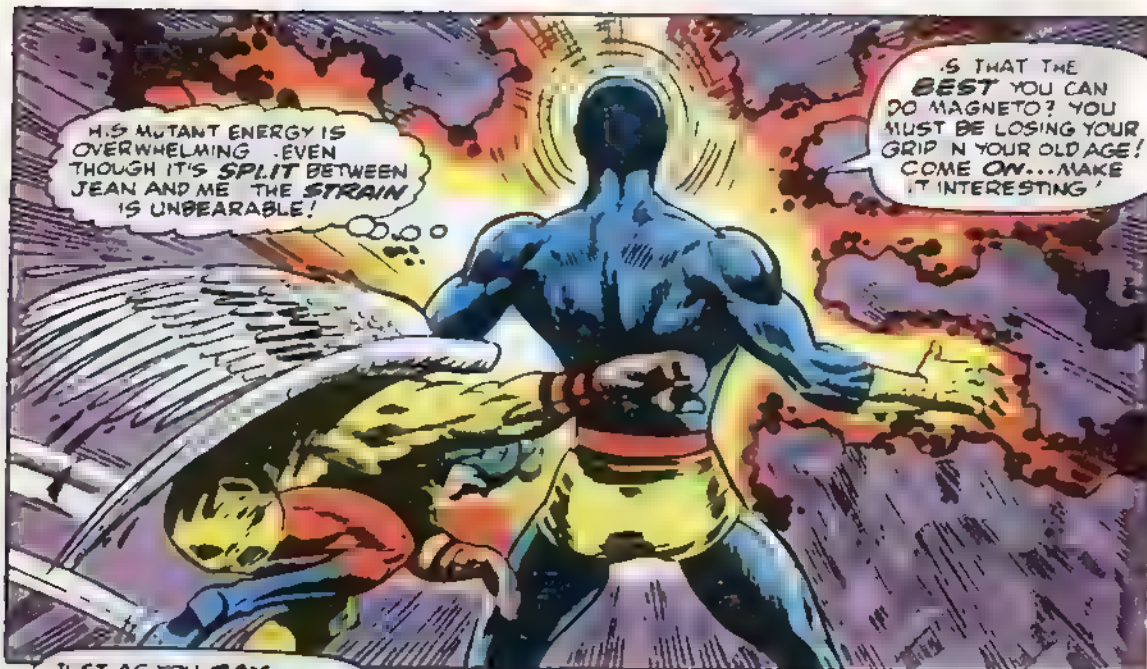
Name.....Age.....

Address.....Apt. No.....City & State.....County.....Zip No.....

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HIS MUTANT ENERGY IS OVERWHELMING. EVEN THOUGH IT'S **SPLIT** BETWEEN JEAN AND ME, THE **STRAIN** IS UNBEARABLE!

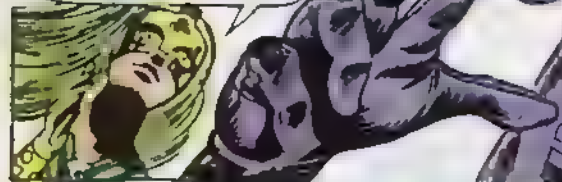
IS THAT THE **BEST** YOU CAN DO MAGNETO? YOU MUST BE LOSING YOUR GRIP IN YOUR OLD AGE! COME ON...MAKE IT INTERESTING!

JUST AS YOU SAY, MY BOASTFUL ANTAGONIST! I SHALL TURN UP THE MUTANT ENERGY UNTIL YOU ARE **CRUSHED** TO DUST!

WAIT, FATHER! WHY MUST THEY DIE? IS THERE NO OTHER WAY?

NONE! I CAN NOT REST UNTIL THE X-MEN HAVE BEEN WIPED FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH! THEY WOULD DO THE SAME HAD THEY THE UPPER HAND!

THE GIRL SHALL GO FIRST! ALREADY I FEEL HER PSYCHOKINETIC POWER IS **CRUMBLING** UNDER MY ASSAULT!



OHMMH--! MY WALL OF MENTAL ENERGY COLLAPSED! HE'S **BURYING** ME IN A TIDAL WAVE OF SCRAP IRON!

SOMEHOW? SURE... ONLY **HOW**? HE'S GOT A WHOLE ARMY OF THESE POWER-LOADED FREAKS TO **THROW** AT US!

LET'S FACE IT... WE'VE NEVER BEEN UP AGAINST ANYTHING TO EQUAL IT! I SAY WE BEAT AN ORDERLY **RETREAT**!

HOLD ON, MARVEL GIRL... TRY TO **SLOW DOWN** THAT STUFF WITH YOUR PSYCHIC POWERS... TILL WE CAN OVERCOME MAGNETO **SOMEHOW**!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

MISSILE FIRING TANK

ONLY \$6⁹⁸

FEATURES

- ★ Elevating 90mm Cannon
- ★ Rocket Launchers
- ★ Real Periscope
- ★ Revolving Turret
- ★ Rockets That Fire
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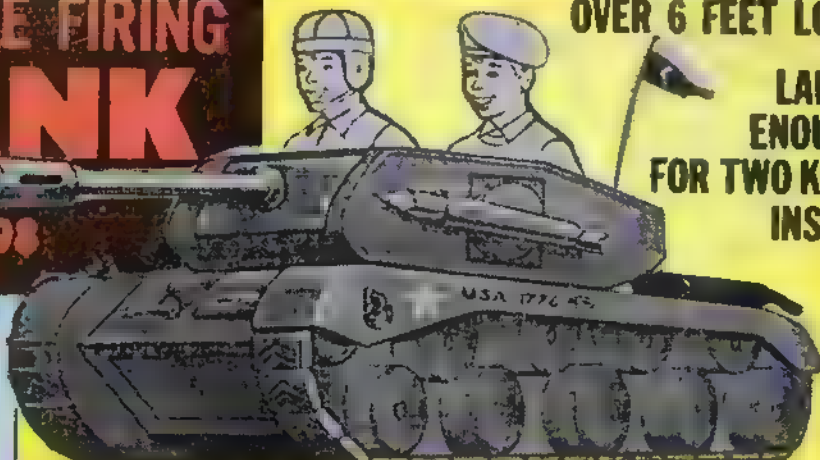
It's Mobile—Pilot Gunner gets INSIDE—Guns Swivel—Turret Turns.

Imagine your thrill when you get inside this realistic action version of the mighty "General Sherman" Tank and charge forward to adventure. This six foot hunk of equipment is so realistic with its mighty cannon and rocket launchers, swiveling machine gun, simulated treads, and other authentic tank features that it's bound to bring shouts of delight from any young warrior. And when you and a pal get right down into the fully equipped control room and close the cockpit cover—you can bet you are using your tremendous fire power to devastate every imaginary enemy in your path. Sturdily constructed of 200+ test fibreboard for long periods of fun. It's bound to bring more thrills and adventure than you have ever known from a toy. So don't delay! Act now. Only \$6.98. Because of its gigantic size we are forced to ask for an additional 75¢ shipping charges.

10 DAY FREE TRIAL: Order this sensational "General Sherman" Tank on 10 day free trial. If you are not 100% delighted, then your purchase price will be refunded.

OVER 6 FEET LONG

LARGE
ENOUGH
FOR TWO KIDS
INSIDE



MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

HONOR HOUSE PRODUCTS CORP. DEPT. 77TA 48
LYNBROOK, NEW YORK 11583

Rush me my "General Sherman" Tank. I Can use it for 10 days and if I am not delighted return it for full purchase price refund.

- ☐ Send it Prepaid. I enclose \$6.98 plus 75¢ to help cover shipping charges.
- ☐ Send it C.O.D. I enclose \$1 good-will deposit and I will pay postman \$5.98 on delivery plus C.O.D. postage.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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Sell GRIT

"America's Greatest Family Newspaper"—
the popular publication in 1,200,000 homes

MAKE
5¢ PROFIT
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WIN
PRIZES
LIKE THIS
TOO

Camera, Watch, Radio, Sports
Equipment, Bike Equipment,
Hunting Knife, Models and other
things boys like.

Grab this opportunity to have your own profitable business. GRIT will help you get started—send you papers and selling helps. You pay only for the papers you sell until you know how many to order.

GRIT is easy to sell. It is the favorite newspaper for more than 1,200,000 families from coast to coast every week.

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Print Name and Address Below

If You Are a Boy 12
Years Old or Older

GRIT PUBLISHING CO., Williamsport, Pa. 17701 MC12-8

Send my first bundle of papers, selling helps and prize offers

Name _____

Are You a Boy? _____ Age _____ Date Born _____ Year _____

In Care of _____

Street and No. _____ R. F. D. _____

Post Office _____ State _____

Zip Code No. _____

**MAIL
THIS
TODAY**

In an Envelope
Papers sent only
to boys
Col. Brenta U.S.

Print Your
Last Name
Plainly Here

UH-OH! LOOKS LIKE THEY DON'T
PLAN ON LETTING US USE OUR
ROUND-TRIP TICKETS

THEY'VE FORMED
A CHAIN... TO
KEEP US FROM
GETTING PAST THEM!
WELL... A CHAIN'S NO
STRONGER THAN ANY
ONE LINK! SO HER-
GOES ONE LIVING
LINK!

SUMMONING HIS LAST
SLURGE OF STRENGTH,
CYCLOPS THROWS A
MIGHTY PUNCH, ONLY
TO FIND...

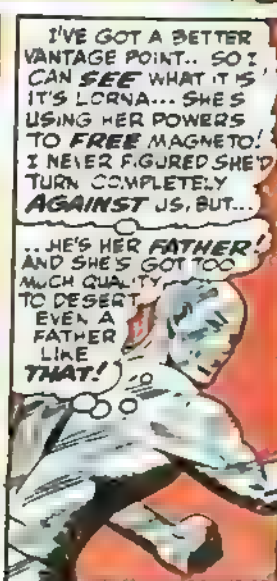
FOOL! I HAVE THE
MUTANT POWER OF...
NEGATIVE ENERGY!
AND FROM THAT STRUCK
AGAINST ME IS INSTANTLY
RETURNED... WITH
DOUBLE THE IMPACT.

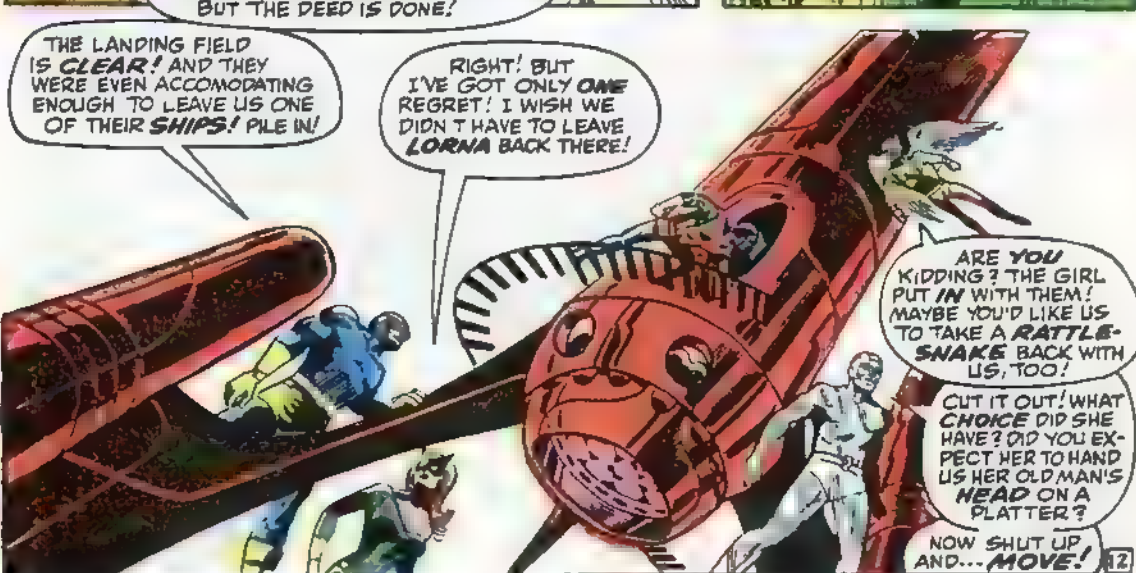
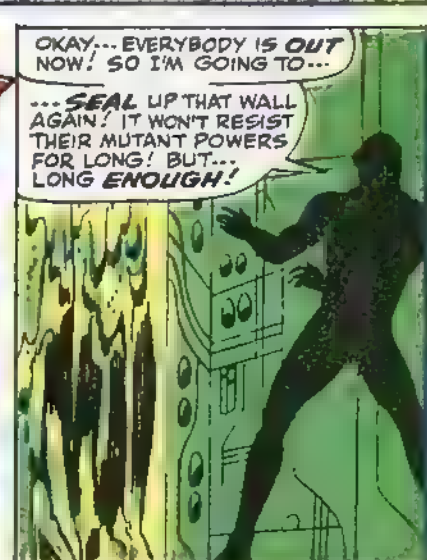
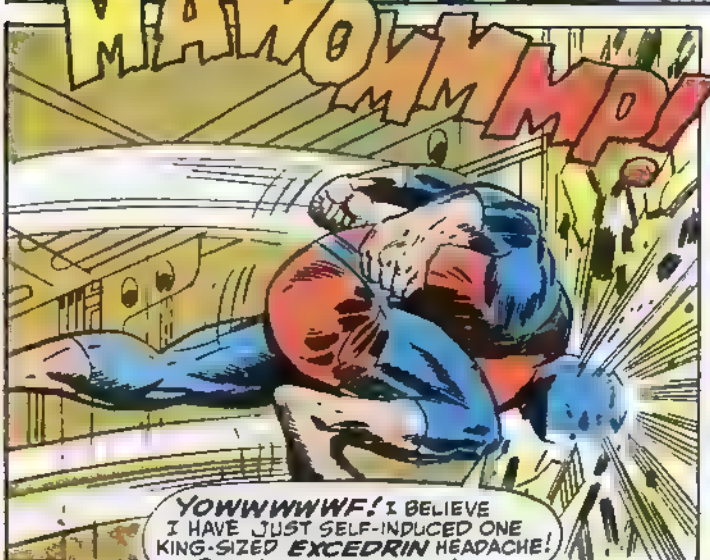
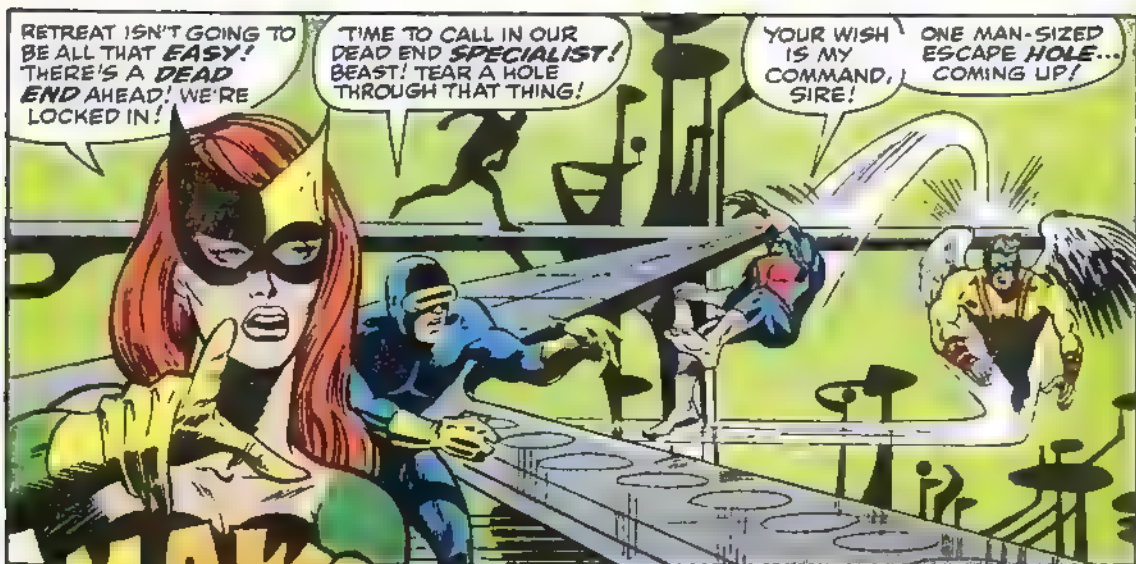
AND NOW YOU MUST
KNOW OUR SECRET
LINKED TOGETHER
THAT WAY EACH OF
US GAINS THE
TOTAL FORCE
OF ALL THE
OTHERS!

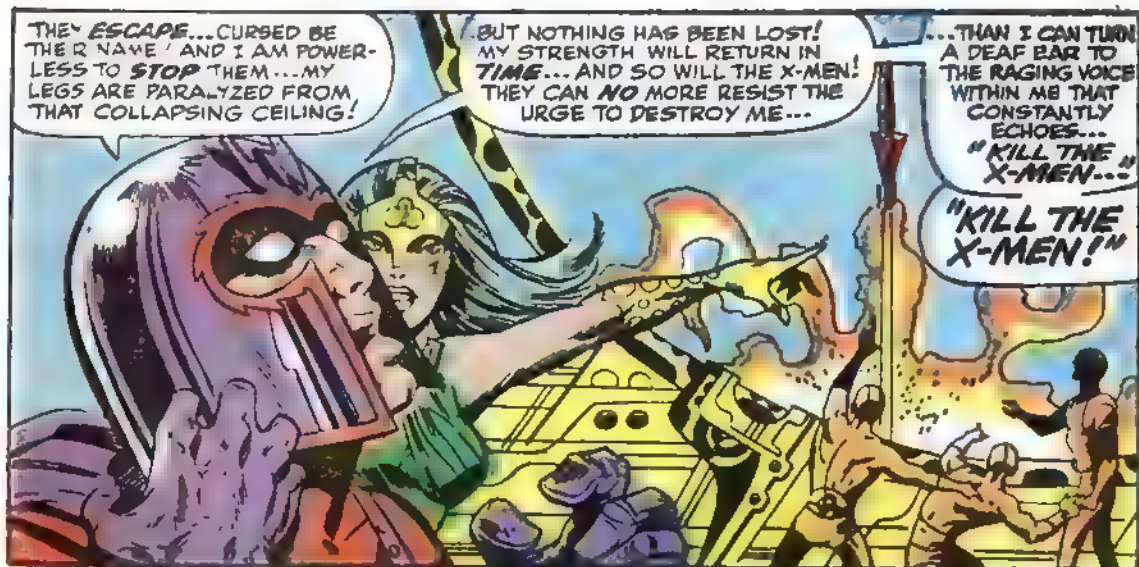
THERE IS NO
WAY OUT FOR
YOU! ONE
BY ONE WE
SHALL
CALL THE
ROLL OF
DEATH!

ANGEL! YOU SHALL DIE WITHIN
THE CONTRACTING COILS OF
THESE STEEL CABLES!
SLOWLY... INEXORABLY...
THEY SHALL SQUEEZE
THE LAST BREATH FROM
YOUR BODY!

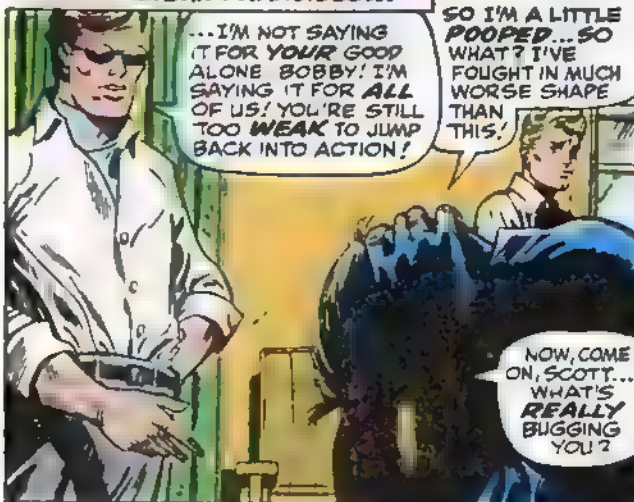
UHHNN!
HE... HE... HE'S NOT
KIDDIN'! IT'S STARTING
ALREADY! MY BREATH
... BEING SQUEEZED
FROM ME! RIB CAGE
GONNA COLLAPSE...
ANY SECOND!
ARRRRHH!







SEVERAL HOURS LATER, IN THEIR TEMPORARY HEAD-QUARTERS IN **SAN FRANCISCO**...



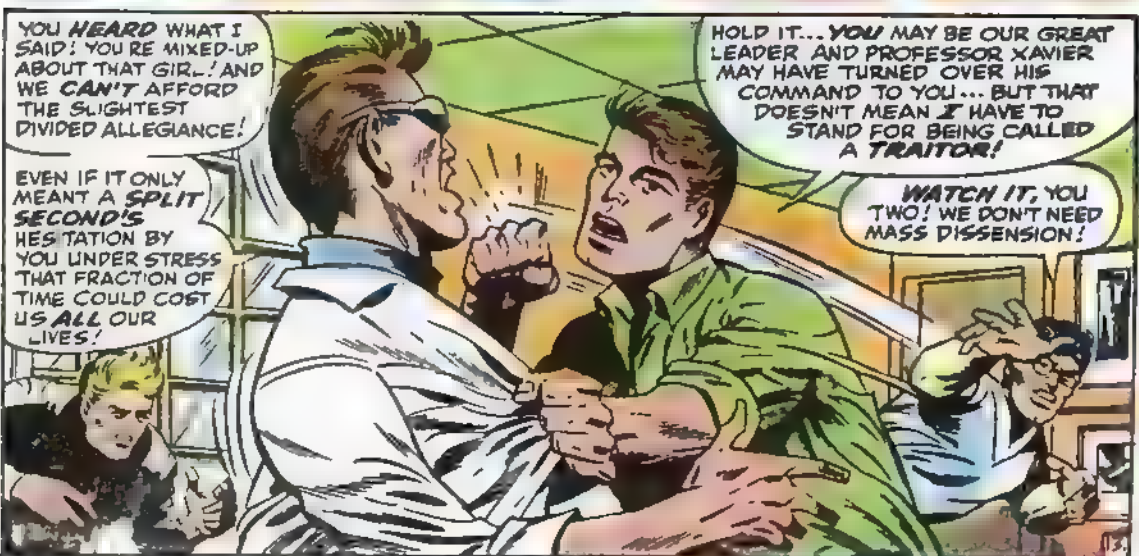
WATCH IT, BOBBY! THAT'S TANTAMOUNT TO CALLING SCOTT A LIAR! AND...

...AND HE'S RIGHT, JEAN! I WAS LYING! BUT THERE'S NO POINT IN THAT NOW! MY REAL REASON FOR WANTING HIM OFF THIS CASE IS...

...THAT HE'S LOST HIS OBJECTIVITY! HE'S EMOTIONALLY INVOLVED WITH THAT GIRL... LORNA!

AND SHE JUST HAPPENS TO BE THE DAUGHTER OF OUR MORTAL ENEMY! THERE'S A CONFLICT OF INTEREST!

HUNT!!



I'VE NEVER ASKED FOR ANY SPECIAL TREATMENT BECAUSE I'M CAPTAIN OF THE TEAM! AND IF YOU'RE ITCHING TO HAVE IT OUT WITH ME...

...JUST SAY THE WORD! YOU WANT THE RIGHT TO MAKE ADULT DECISIONS, THEN BE READY TO BACK THEM UP WITH A MAN-SIZED FIST!

MY PLEASURE! JUST GET YOUR STOOGE OFF MY BACK AND WE'LL SEE WHO'S PREPARED TO EAT WHOSE WORDS!

I WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED IT IF I HADN'T HEARD IT WITH MY OWN EARS! TWO X-MEN ACTING LIKE A PAIR OF THUGS IN A GRADE-Z GANGSTER MOVIE!

IS THIS WHAT WE GAVE OUR LIVES TO? IS THIS WHY WE SACRIFICED ANY NORMAL EXISTENCE WE MIGHT HAVE HAD TO BECOME THE X-MEN?

THE MONTHS AND MONTHS OF TENSION AND PAIN THAT WE UNDERTOOK TO PERFECT OUR MUTANT POWERS! THE DEVOTION THAT...

...PROFESSOR XAVIER LAVISHED ON US TO MAKE US THE BEST FIGHTING TEAM THAT EVER LIVED...

--ALL THAT BLOWN TO DUST BY A PAIR OF HOT-HEADED FOOLS! IS THAT GOING TO BE YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT?

DON'T WHISTLE ME THE THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER! HE STARTED IT...

...WITH THAT JAZZ ABOUT ME BEING A TRAITOR! BUT I'M GONNA FINISH IT! LIKE... NOW!

YOU WEREN'T LISTENING TO A WORD SHE SAID, WERE YOU? IT WENT IN ONE DUMB EAR...

--AND RIGHT OUT THE OTHER! WELL... I HEARD HER AND SHE'S RIGHT! THROWING PUNCHES AT EACH OTHER ISN'T GOING TO SOLVE ONE SOLITARY THING!

WELL I'LL BE...! YOU...YOU'RE CHICKEN! THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE! I'D NEVER HAVE BELIEVED IT!

YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, DO YOU, YOU WET-EARED PUP!

I GET IT, ALL RIGHT! OUR NOBLE LEADER HAS LOST HIS COOL! I'M GETTIN' OUT OF HERE BEFORE YOU BUST OUT IN BIG WET TEARS!

W!

LET HIM GO! IT'S BETTER THIS WAY! HE'LL COOL OFF...

...IN TIME! AND BY THEN WE'LL BE DONE WITH MAGNETO!

THAT IS, IF MY PLAN DOESN'T RUN INTO ANY SNAGS ALONG THE WAY!

PLAN?! WHAT PLAN? HOW ABOUT LETTING THE LOWLY TROOPS IN ON THE HIGH COMMAND STRATEGY, GENERAL?

SEVERAL DAYS LATER IN THE GREAT WASTELAND THAT BETRAYS ONLY A SMALL CLUE TO THE FANTASTIC WORLD THAT LIES BENEATH IT...

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HO!!

IT IS USELESS TO TRY TO ESCAPE ME! NOR HAVE I COME TO DO BATTLE WITH ANY FEEBLE AS YOU!

GO THEN, AND BRING THIS WORD TO YOUR GREAT LEADER! LET MAGNETO KNOW THAT THERE STANDS ONE HERE WHO CAN MATCH HIS MUTANT MASTERY... AND MORE! LET HIM KNOW OF THE COMING OF... **ERIK THE RED!**

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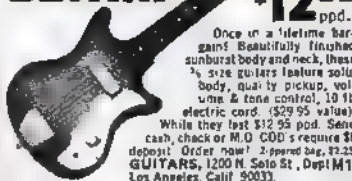
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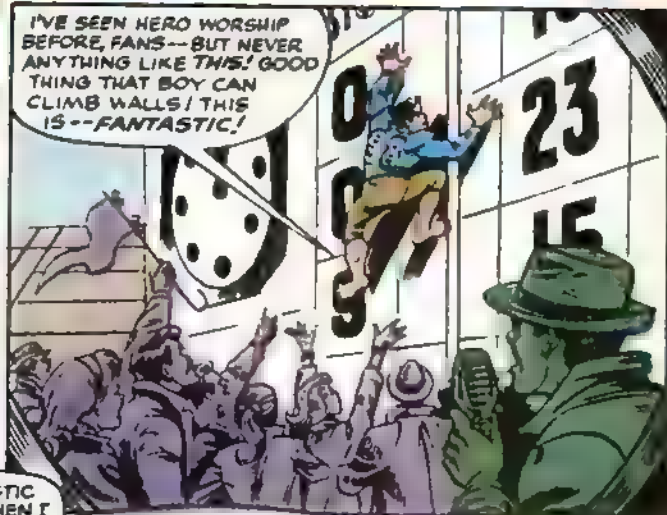
I, TOO, KNEW YOU WOULD FIND IT! FOR YOUR GREAT SCHEME WAS FATED TO SUCCEED-- CONQUISTADOR!

SEE HOW THEY SCREAM FOR THEIR YOUNG HERO! BUT THEIR JOY WILL TURN TO TERROR -- WHEN THE BOY BELONGS TO US!

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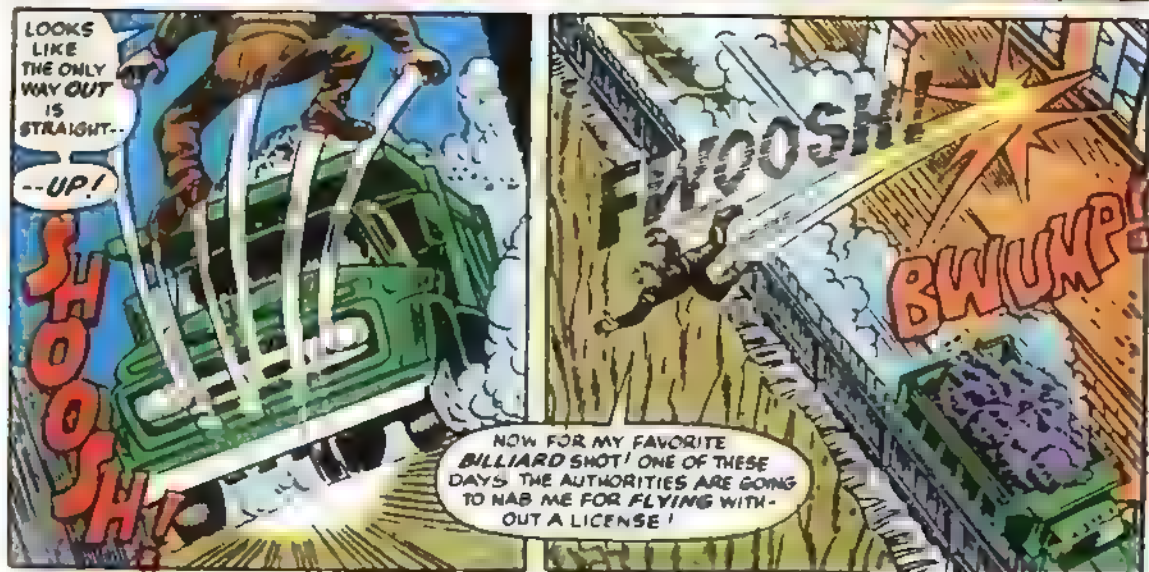
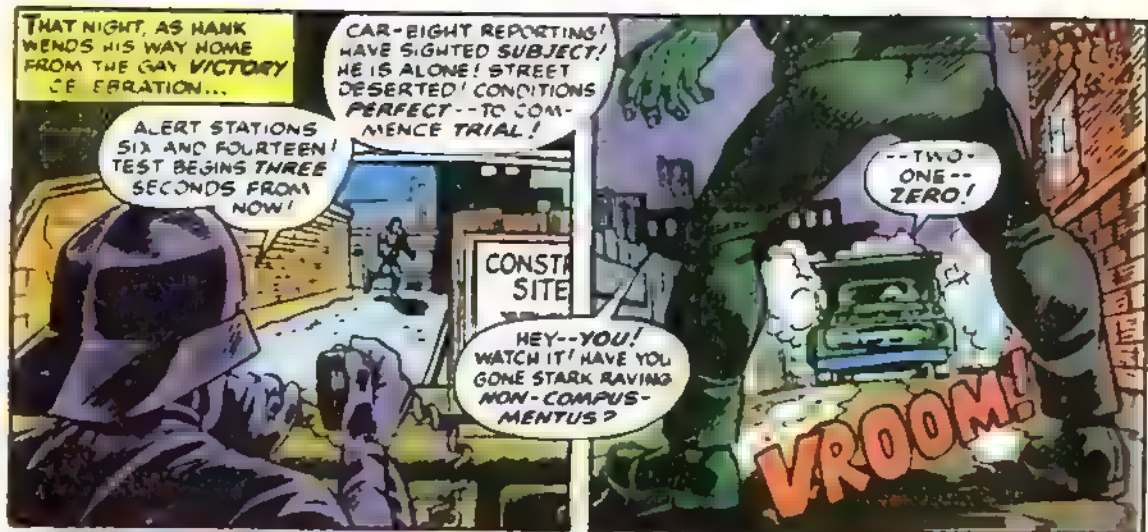


NOT HALF AS FANTASTIC AS HE WILL PROVE WHEN I HAVE HARNESSSED HIM TO MY ENGINE OF COMPLETE DESTRUCTION!

CHICO-- CALL THE MEN! WE ARE READY TO MOVE!

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CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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LATER, OUTSIDE HANK'S HOME, A SILENT FIGURE WAITS PATIENTLY FOR SOME SIGN OF LIFE! AND THEN BEGINS STEALTHILY ADVANCING...

WHAT THE DEUCE?! THE DINNER TABLE FRESHLY SET! AND SIGNS OF A NASTY STRUGGLE! BETTER REPORT BACK!

WHEN PROFESSOR XAVIER'S MUTANT DETECTOR--CEREBRO--RECEIVED SIGNALS FROM THIS POINT--

--HE DIDN'T REALIZE HE WAS DISPATCHING ME INTO A FIRST CLASS MYSTERY!

--THAT'S WHAT I SAID! THE SUSPECTED MUTANT IS GONE AND SO ARE HIS FOLKS! AND THEY DIDN'T GO-- QUIETLY!

SOMEONE ELSE HAS DETECTED THE FULL POWER INHERENT IN THIS BOY! BUT WHO? AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE?

FRIENDS, IT IS TIME WE TOOK A MORE DIRECT ROLE IN THIS ENIGMA!

HOW DID ANGEL GET HERE BEFORE HIS ORIGIN WAS UNFOLDED! PATIENCE DEAR FANATICS--AND ALL SHALL BE MADE KNOWN!

IT MAY, IN FACT, BE PAST TIME, PROFESSOR!

THE OPTION IS TOTALLY YOURS, BOY! YOUR IMPRISONED PARENTS WILL SURVIVE-- OR NOT--

--DEPENDENT UPON YOUR DECISION! NOW --FOR THE LAST TIME-- WILL YOU COOPERATE?

NEXT: HANK'S CHOICE!

A TITANIC TREASURE-TROVE OF TRAUMATICALLY TEMPTING TID-BITS TASTEFULLY TOSSED TOGETHER TO TEASE AND TANTALIZE THEE!

We've got news aplenty for you this month, so let's not waste a minute! Here we GOOOOOO —

ITEM: Well, it finally happened! The love bug bit our own romantic ROY THOMAS and he actually took the plunge! Yep, the Rascally One was recently married to as pretty a gal as you can find outside of a Jazzy Johnny drawing! So if he happens to name his next few dozen heroines Jean — don't be too surprised, hear? And the whole misty-eyed Bullpen wishes the cavortin' couple many many long years of health, happiness, and superhero luvin'! Now back to the typewriter. RT!

ITEM: Suddenly, everyone's talking about Green skin again! Could it be because SMILIN' STAN himself is writing the yarns once more — or because of the pulsating power of HAPPY HERBY TRIMPHY's pulse-pounding penciling? We're not sure, but we'll tell you this — the Incredible HULK has never been greater and judging by the fan mail, we're selling more copies than we're printing! Hooo boy!

ITEM: Looks like romance is really in the air around the hallowed halls of Marvel! JOLLY JACK KIRBY's handsome son Neal has just announced his engagement and will probably have already tied the knot by the time you read these words! Heartiest congratulations to the King and Roz — and after his winning fandom's most coveted award for World's Best Comic Book Penciller, it seems there's never a dull moment around the Kirby clan's household!

ITEM: Didja see the colorful cover of THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #2 now on sale? Not being content to sketch the story boards for the whole zingy issue of RING A DINING ROMITA actually did the cover painting himself! If you wanna see living proof why Johnny's one of the best, don't dare miss it! (And the story's not so bad, either!)

ITEM: The comic world is still agog about Marvel latching onto AWESOME ART NOLO ORAKE! You can see his sensational serot in NOT BRAND ECMH MARVEL SUPERHEROES X-MEN and CAPTAIN MARVEL to name a few mildly magnificent masterworks we've been losing atcha! Both he and ARTFUL ARCHIE GOODWIN have turned into a couple of Bullpen Bomb-shells, joining the ranks of STAN THE MAN, LEE RASCALLY ROY and GROOVY GARY FRIEDRICH (who'll be back from the coast most any day now), bolstering the greatest lineup of comic magazine writing talent ever assembled under one roof! And wait till you see the drama-drenched yarns of EARNEST ERNIE HART — but more about him in the months to come.

ITEM: Remember how great DR. STRANGE used to be? Well, dig it now — with GENIAL GENE COLAN and TERRIFIC TOMMY PALMER handling the art chores. It's just gotta be the most psychedelic saga of all time! And, speaking of that wait'll you see what JAUNTY JIM STERANKO has up his sleeve for Marveldom Assembled when he finishes the latest X-MEN. He's working on another great feature which promises to earn even more raves than Jim's never-to-be-forgotten SHIELD spectacular! And speaking of SHIELD, how about the astonishing artwork of FEARLESS FRANKIE SPRINGER? If you think he's good now — wait'll we let him buy a brand new pencil!

ITEM: No mention of Marvel's amazing art staff would be complete without including the prize-winning productions of BIG JOHN BUSCEMA! This rugged, rough-and-ready

zanny is setting fandom on its collective ear with the mouth-watering masterpieces he's been turning out for SILVER SURFER, THE AVENGERS and SUB-MARINER. A dour thanks in MARVELOUS MARE SEVERIN for pinch-hitting on the most recent episode of Prince Namor, while Big John took a long delayed vacation. JOHN SEVERIN's little sis is probably the most versatile dust-ator we know. She can hold her own with any action artist in the biz and also does the best gag cartoons this side of Peanuts!

FRUSTRATION DEPT! We wanted to tell you about the latest exploits of DAZZLING DONNIE HECK, WONDROUS WERNER ROTH, LONG-SOME GEORGE TUSKA, DARLIN' DICK AYERS, HEROIC HOWE PURCELL, LARRY LARRY LIEBER and DANDY DAN ADKINS, but we've just run out of room! And with that, we'll say NIL NISI OPTIMUS till next ish!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #82: Because you demanded it — We proudly present The return of The Inhumans.

SPIDER-MAN #68: A protest riot on campus. Brand new characters! And a most deadly villain!

MARVEL SUPERHEROES #18: From a mild mystery across the starscape comes the guardians of the galaxy.

AVENGERS #59: The Wasp has a new suitor and the Avengers a new nemesis. Yellowjacket!

DAREDEVIL #47: A banded veil! A courtroom bombshell! The secret of Karen Page!

MIGHTY THOR #159: Where was Thor before Dr. Blake found the hammer? Here's the answer at last!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #109: A brand new version in complete detail of Cap's amazing origin!

INCREDIBLE HULK #111: Trapped in space by a mysterious foe — Green Skin finds another world!

IRON MAN #9: Here comes the Green Goblin — and if you don't know who we mean — you will!

SUB-MARINER #9: Can even mighty Namor save his sunken empire from the deadly Spell of the Serpent?

CAPTAIN MARVEL #9: Twin menaces from two different worlds menace our star-crossed crusader! A gasser!

NICK FURY, AGENT OF SHIELD #8: From the Caves of Hercules comes a threat to SHIELD — and the world!

DR. STRANGE #176: They clash by night, our mystic master and the sinister Sons of Satanish!

SGT. FURY #61: Happy Sam's a hostage — and that's the Howers' sign! To go — GO.

CAPTAIN SAVAGE #9: The new Savage is here — and no war mag buff will want to miss a minute.

MARVEL TALES #18: Spider, Thor and the Human Torch. Three of Marvel's mightiest!

MILLIE THE MODEL #166: Got a sister, Girl friend? Wife? This is the laff riot for HER!

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN #2: The greatest frontier action with the Rawhide Kid, Kid Colt and the Two Gun Kid!

STAN'S SOAPBOX

The next time anyone puts you down for reading a comic mag, try hitting him with this little soapbox which I've used on various radio and TV guest appearances in the past few months.

Comic books are a medium of communication — just as television and motion pictures are. All three employ words and pictures, and all must be judged on their individual merits. A story is a story, whether presented between two covers or on a screen. If the words have dramatic impact, if the pictures are visually appealing, if the theme is emotionally relevant, then certainly it's worthy of a reader's attention. However, if the quality is lacking, then it rates little consideration. Isn't this equally true of a TV program, a Broadway show, a motion picture or any other form of entertainment? All we at Marvel ask is that our product be judged on the basis of quality — a quality which we sincerely believe is equal to that found in any other comparable media.

Marvel Comics today are produced by the finest creative talent available. Read them first — and then decide. Excelsior!

Smiley

And, STILL ON SALE—

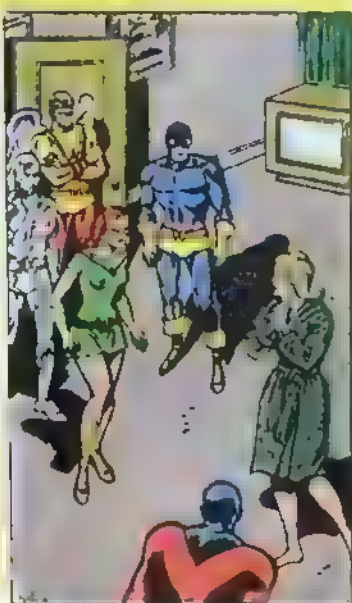
SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #2: The truth about the uncanny Green Goblin — in full dazzling color.

SILVER SURFER #3: Featuring Mephisto, the most awesome super villain of our age!

NOT BRAND ECMH #11: The nuttiest ish ever — with King Kook and a cavortin' kookie cast of cockeyed characters!

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #18: The FF, Doc Strange and Iron Man, need we say more?

RAWHIDE KID #67: Marvel's western winner becomes The Hostage of Hungry Hills — Don't miss!





Mutant Mail-Box

ADDRESS YOUR LETTERS TO
THE MARVEL COMICS
GROUP, SECOND FLOOR
625 MADISON AVE.,
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

Dear Stan, Arnold, and Jim,

You goofed again!! In X-MEN #47 you stated that one does not have to be born with special powers to be a mutant. You're wrong. One does. But Jack o'Diamonds was a mutant, and Spidey, DD, and the F.F. aren't. Here is the difference: Spidey and DD were exposed to relatively small amounts of radioactivity, and their body systems adapted to the radio-activity, giving them their powers. Jack o' Diamonds had the mutant ability of converting radioactivity to diamond, but only a little at a time. If he had taken his doses a little at a time, he would not have been affected the way he was, and wouldn't have died. However, Spidey and DD cannot take anymore radioactivity safely, as demonstrated in DD #43, I believe. As to the F.F., they were exposed to that cosmic junk, which is slightly different from radioactivity

RFO, KOF Lynn King, Box 444
Bledsoe, Texas 79314



Dear Stan, Arnold, and Jim,

By using logical deduction I have solved a problem concerning two of your characters (Human Torch and Iceman): that has always bothered me. I am sick of writers referring to Iceman's powers as an icy coating. I get nauseous when you print letters that say the Human Torch's powers came from oxidizing hemoglobin or that Torch is completely fire-proof but he controls flames to cover him. The real answer is simple: The Torch is fire. Iceman is pure ice. Now, how can a being of pure fire or ice move, talk, or think? I don't know. You made up the character. My proof: in X-MEN #8, Iceman altered his ice crystals to make him almost transparent. If it was an icy coating, we would be able to see his body underneath. In STRANGE TALES ANNUAL #2 Torch, in a practice session, flew through a tank tread. In STRANGE TALES #116 the Torch flew through a jet. Also, the Torch wouldn't be able to fly if he was solid. Throw a lighted match into the air. Does it fly? Possibly Torch is gas based. From now on refer to back issues to get the facts straight. Thank you for listening

Tad Stones, 643 Priscilla Lane
Burbank, California 91505

Dear Stan, Arnold, and Jim,

I feel I can hold myself back from writing no longer. The X-MEN was once your worst comic. I say that in the past tense because with issue #49, the first issue as a reunited team, they pulled out of their slump with a great continued story. I think they should have all continued stories because 15 pages isn't enough for one story. The X-Men became a success as a team and should remain that way forever. By the way, Jim Steranko's cover was fabulous, worth at least 12c in itself

Rich Matras and fellow Kree Fraternity Members
251 Euston Road, Garden City Sq,
New York 11530



Dear Makers of Mutant Masterpieces,

At first glance, any non mutant maniac might've dismissed X-MEN #48 as "Mullie the Model Revisited," but further perusing would've disproved this. The Masters Friedrich and Drake made an excellent scripting team on #47, and when the latter did it alone—KAPOW! (to coin a phrase!) I feel the new format of the X-MEN is really great. This seems to be the first thing of this type that you've done. Oh, I do have a little objection—I think that Scott and Jean should have come to California and Bobby and Hank stayed in New York. Why? Well, our frigid friend and his buddy had more ties in New York than the others (Vera and Zeldia by name). This is too late to change anything, but I think that if any X-Men had to come to the "Golden State," the best city for them would be San Francisco ("The City"). But, with the luck of said city, Los Angeles will probably be the lucky one. L.A. is (according to the song "Do you Know the Way to San Jose?") "a great big freeway." S.F. meanwhile, has the hippie-like sections like New York, as well as a quaintness only "The City You'll Leave Your Heart In" can have. If you're not sold now I bid thee Arrichoke!!!

RFO, KOF Celeste Martin, 1571 Chambers Dr.
San Jose, California 95110

KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM:

R.F.O. (REAL FRANTIC-ONE)—A BUYER OF AT LEAST 3
MARVEL MAGS A MONTH

T.T.B. (TITANIC TRUE BELIEVER)—A DIVINELY-INSPIRED
'NO-PRIZE' WINNER.

Q.N.S. (QUITE 'NUFF SAYER)—A FORTUNATE FRANTIC
ONE WHO'S HAD A LETTER PRINTED

K.O.F. (KEEPER OF THE FLAME) ONE WHO RECRUITS A
NEWCOMER TO MARVEL'S ROLLICKIN' RANKS

P.M.M. (PERMANENT MARVELITE MAXIMUS)—ANYONE
POSSESSING ALL FOUR OF THE OTHER TITLES

F.F.F. (FEARLESS FRONT FACER)—AN HONORARY TITLE
BESTOWED FOR DEVOTION TO MARVEL ABOVE
AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Dear Bullpen,

You guys at Marvel really cannot be beat. You are the creators of an aerospace scanner entitled the Watcher, a dominator of the universe of space whose domain is unlimited; a being powered by cosmic energy, the Silver Surfer; a Captain Marvel, one that cannot be compared with puny foes such as those your competitors strive to create each month; a green-skinned monster called the Hulk whose powerful legs challenge those of Stan "The Man" Lee; an amphibian, with winged feet enabling him to survey the ocean depths at their greatest extent, appropriately called Sub-Mariner; two howlin', fightin' mad soldiers named Sergeant Fury and Captain Savage (a new arrival on the Marvel Merry-Go-Round); three fab fighting teams combining strength, agility, the two extremes of temperature, invisibility, force beams, cunning, telepathic powers, power of flight, mastery of the bow and arrow, plus an array of other fighting weapons, who are called fittingly The Fantastic Four (Reed Richards, Sue Richards, Thing, Human Torch), The X-Men (Beast, Iceman, Cyclops, Marvel Girl, Angel) and The Avengers (Goliath, Wasp, Iron Man, Hawkeye, Black Panther). But last, and certainly not the least, you have a superhero whom the finger of fate has greatly mistreated, a young lad whose amazing abilities such as strength (only five exceed him, but yet still a teenager), senses that surpass those we use in everyday life (only Daredevil has senses more keenly developed), agility, power of balance, and web-slinging fitted neatly into one compact ball of web fluid combine to create the Spectacular Spider-Man in his crisp blue, red, and black costume, revealing the true prototype of a Marvel superhero. And to top it all off, you are also the scrutinizing scripters, the dizzy doodlers, the prognosticated pencilers, and the incomparable inkers of the bombastic bombshells you hurl at us each month . . . ! Yes, you, the Merry Madmen at Marvel deserve a great tribute. Thusly, I command your guru to give each of you Bullpen staffmen, for meritorious conduct and service above and beyond the call of duty, the title of "Fearless Front Facer," the highest rank in all of Marveldom. And last, let me say this: Your mags have brought entertainment, joy, and laughter anew in this revolutionary age. Thanks for listening to a humble reader's compliments. So, until next ish, remember the famous phrase: What's done cannot be undone.

RFO Larry McGill, 8528 E. 31 Pl.
Tulsa, Okla.

Dear Stan, Arnold, and Jim,

All that I can say is congratulations! At this point you are probably asking yourselves congratulations on/far what? Congratulations for taking (for lack of a better term) "The Strangest Super-Heroes of All" and trying to up-date them so drastically. If I am correct this attempt to mature the X-Men must have been started with issue #39 when the X-Men were given their separate costumes, so that what came to pass in issue #47 would allow a totally different image of these teenagers' appearance to their frantic fans. I, for one, feel that the abolition of the X-Men as a stereotyped group of super-powered freaks will allow a much wider field for development of the personality of each and every character. There is only one thing that I did not like concerning this change, and that was the death of Prof. X. I also realize that if the much lamented Professor X had not been killed, this entire change would not have been made possible. So, in conclusion, I would like to say that even though issue #46 was advertised as the end, it is in reality, the beginning.

Carl Brezaussek, 3628 N. Hawthorne Lane
Indianapolis, Indiana 46218

Dear Stan, Arnold, and Jim,

This letter is to comment on issue #48 of the X-MEN, so get ready! First, I was disappointed at your split of the team, as I'm sure many fans were. I don't know how I like the Beast-Iceman team yet, but I like the Cyclops' Marvel Girl combination. The beginning was good. I enjoyed seeing Jean in those bathing suits. She's really a beautiful girl, but in team action it didn't show. I hope to see more of her at work, but I don't want you to turn her into a Millie the Model type. As for Cyclops, he has a useful cover, as he himself said, but I hope you'll explain how he got the job. What experience had he had in that field of work that qualified him? I mean, you don't just come into a radio studio from off the street and say, "I wanna be a newsmen!" I'd also like to know how long they've been at these jobs. You brought out the fact that there had been three near-disasters where Jean is working since she's been there; and Scott seemed quite familiar with the studio already. There is one more thing I want to mention. Now that the team is split and Jean and Scott are on their own and can depend only on each other, I hope you will really build up a romance between them. I thought that perhaps when Scott came into her studio and acted jealous that there really was something developing between them, but when he fought the boss, I knew it wasn't true. He would not behave in such a manner. Anyway, I want to see them begin to act like the lovers they secretly are. You messed up Daredevil's life enough by such a secret love situation. Okay, I'd better quit now.

QNS Christine Cassella, 8017 S. Muskegon
Chicago, Ill. 60617



Dear Stan, Arnold, and Jim,

In the letters section of CAPTAIN AMERICA #105, you wrote "When we kill off a villain, he stays killed! 'Nuff said!" Not quite enough, I'm afraid. How come the villain in X-MEN #48 turns out to be Quasimodo, huh? I just happened to be standing in the crowd of bystanders who saw the Silver Surfer polish him off in the last FANTASTIC FOUR SPECIAL. It isn't a sight I'll soon forget, since I was standing right below the battle and thought we'd all be killed by falling bricks. And another thing, how come it's X-MEN instead of X-MEN and GIRL, or something? Sheesh! On the other hand, I gotta say that the X-Men are finally getting better, even almost readable, except for the totally useless X-Family Album that has been appearing on the last pages. I want to say more, but my typewriter is beginning to smoke, so I'll close. Make Mine Marvel until further notice!

Don Gregg, 808 North 50th Street
Birmingham, Alabama

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says Norman Rockwell

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Carl Kock was an 18-year-old apprentice in a Chicago art studio when he enrolled. Today he prepares ads for such companies as General Motors and Firestone—has won five gold medals.

Howard Sanden of Minneapolis took the Course while still in high school. He is now a successful artist—recently he and his wife traveled through Europe and the Middle East on important art assignments.

Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Kathleen Gironda of Indiana, Pennsylvania, was an 18-year-old salesgirl in a department store. She still works for a department store, but now it's as an advertising artist and fashion illustrator.

With Famous Artists training James Ryan, formerly a clerk, has become an illustrator at Hughes Aircraft—and turns out a steady stream of well-paying free-lance artwork in his spare time.

Oregon housewife Helen Tryk lives 150 miles from the nearest big city. But she does fashion illustration, has her own studio, runs an art work shop, does portraits.

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It started over 18 years ago when a group of America's most successful artists—men like Albert Dorne, Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Al Parker and Stevan Dohanos—met in New York City. They knew that all over America there were people who liked to draw who could be turned into good artists. Albert Dorne asked, "Why can't we give these people the

Founding Faculty of the Famous Artists School

Norman Rockwell	Fred Ludekens
Jon Whitcomb	Ben Stahl
Al Parker	Robert Fawcett
Stevan Dohanos	Austin Briggs
George Giusti	Harold Von Schmidt
Peter Helck	Albert Dorne

training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years?"

He suggested a new kind of art school—a home study art school—that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live.

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Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the Famous Artists created a 12-page Talent Test. Thousands paid to take this test, but now the School offers and grades it free. Men and women who do well on the test—or offer other sufficient evidence of art talent—may enroll in the School. But there's no obligation. Simply mail the coupon below.

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